



Ryan Family Farm wins Best Milk Solids - Manufacturing Milk Award in 2019 NDC & Kerrygold Quality Milk Awards.



Pictured on stage are Ailbhe, Shane, Ailbe & Denise Ryan with Clodagh McKenna, Food Ambassador for the 2019 Awards; Eamonn Carroll, NDC Chairman; and Pat Sheahan, Ornua Vice Chairman.

Instore Talks at Arrabawn

Having run a short series of talks at the **Arrabawn Store Tyone Mills**, Nenagh, the Arrabawn Store Athenry and the Arrabawn Store Newport earlier in the summer it has been decided to extend the series of talks for the foreseeable future.

The talks have been designed to be **informative, informal and social** events where customers can come along and listen to a short presentation, have a cuppa and also meet other customers in a social setting. Apart from the valuable information it is hoped that farmers will use the occasion to just take a break, especially during the busy times of the year, winter feeding and calving.

The subjects will vary from drying off cows to soil fertility, to pest control, to feed advice, road safety and farm machinery, dealing with Bord Bia inspection and many other topics.

The next series of talks will be on:-

- Soil and Silage Sampling and
- Reducing Stress on Weanlings at Housing

And will take place on **Thursday October 24th in Tyone Mills Store, Nenagh 2 - 3pm**

and on **Wednesday October 30th at Arrabawn Store, Athenry 11 - 1pm**

The talks are being co-ordinated by Brendan Collins B.Agr. (Animal and Crop) and Siobhan Killeen RVN, B.sc.

Brendan Collins has B.Agr.Sc. degree specialising in Animal Nutrition and Crop Husbandry and has been working with Arrabawn / Dan O'Connor Feeds for the past two years.

Siobhan Killeen RVN, B.sc. is a vet nurse and has recently joined Arrabawn and is heading up the Animal Health Advice section advising farmers on general animal health issues and in particular advice on Mastitis/SCC control.

For further information contact your local Arrabawn / Dan O'Connor Rep, call to your local Arrabawn branch or ring 087 6697010.

Our Athenry Store won Nutribio 'Co-Op Store of the Year' at the Animal Health Awards recently held in The Clayton Hotel, Galway.



Charlie McConalogue TD, Fianna Fail spokesperson on Agriculture, Food & the Marine, Kieran Phelan CAHL National Sales Manager, Tomas Dunleavy Arrabawn Athenry & Joe Connolly.

Drying Off Tips and Tricks

Controlling your Somatic Cell Count (SCC) is crucial to ensure maximum profits are benefited from your dairy herd. SCC affects numerous aspects of milk production such as protein structures, yields and processing quality. The dry period is the best time to reduce your SCC as the long acting antibiotics present in the tubes are more effective than lactating cow tubes to control subclinical infections. A decrease of 100,000 SCC can increase your profits by 1.3c/l. In a 100-cow herd (producing 5,000L/cow/year) this equates to an increase of up to €6,500/year. This increase is due to avoiding penalties while increasing yield by 2%/cow with high SCC.

To choose the best acting tubes for your herd:

- Perform a milk recording 4-5 weeks prior to drying off to identify high SCC cows
- Take a milk sample from highest 3-5 SCC cows and perform a sensitivity test
- Purchase tubes best suited to combat the bacteria present causing the subclinical infection with the help of your milk advisor/vet
- Use a sealer to create a barrier against new bacteria entering the teat throughout the dry period
- A successful Dry Cow Therapy can be monitored by Cure Rate seen when milk recording the following February.

Tips and Tricks:

- Prepare in advance to drying off by gathering all equipment and tubes in plenty of time:
- Order Tubes as early as possible to ensure quantities required in stock
- Ensure plenty of clean gloves are available
- Make a plan of which cows to be dried off in batches
- Prepare cotton wool soaked in methylated spirits the day before for test cleaning
- Get a head torch/ torch on wrist for easy vision of teat opening and prevent damage to test end
- Tubes stored in two separate buckets to avoid confusion
- Ensure housing/paddock used after drying off is clean in advance and away from the parlour if possible (sound of milking parlour can induce milk let down).
- Ensure cows are allowed to stand for 20-30 minutes in a clean area post drying off to ensure udder sphincters have sufficient time to close
- Don't restrict cows to a straw only diet, mix a small amount of silage through also to maintain enough energy for growth of the calf (Not losing too much BSC)

Strict Culling is required to control SCC in a herd. Cows with consistently high SCC must be removed from the herd to prevent further spread of infection. A cow with more than 2 cases of clinical mastitis within in one lactation must be culled, as she will become a source of infection also.

Heifers must be looked after prior to calving. It can be very stressful for them adapting to their new surrounding and routine. Stress can rise the SCC without a bacterial infection. Some simple things which can be done to help them adjust include prioritise cubicle spaces for heifers. Do not mix heifers with older cows in the cubicle shed until they are fully comfortable walking on the concentrate floors and lying on the cubicles. Ensure calving beds are clean as possible for heifers as they may be more susceptible to infection.

Seasonal Reminder:

Prepare in advance when cleaning your sheds for the winter, including: slatted sheds, cubicle sheds, calving pens and calf sheds.

Some tips to ensure best efficacy:

- Remove all physical dirt/dung from walls, gates, barrier and feed rails
- Choose a suitable disinfectant- i.e. Stalosan Powder or Virkon solution.
- Follow dilution rates accurately
- Allow for Disinfectant to dry on surface for best results
- Ensure sunshine and air is allowed into the shed to freshen out the air.

EasyWeaner has a unique herbal blend which supports cattle in numerous ways. Some of the benefits

of using EasyWeaner include:

- **Stimulation of the immune system** against lung disease, by encouraging immunoglobulins to perform optimally against common diseases. This helps maintain the integrity of the epithelial tissue, the soundness of lung tissue lining is an essential component of the animal's defence against infectious pathogens and their toxins.
- **Reduces stress** by having calming effect on animals, high stress levels further decrease immune function making cattle more susceptible to disease.
- **Improves appetite** to avoid weight loss and continue to thrive while transitioning between outdoors to indoors
- Reduces instances of coughing by improving the overall health of the lungs

Easy Weaner is a multi-use product, not just for weaning calves. It can be used in many stressful situations such as:

Weaning Housing Sales Moving, dosing, etc.

Just add Trace Pack

EasyWeaner to the feed for

7 - 10 days before and after weaning or housing. Feed at 30 grms/day - it's an ideal tonic for weanlings. For further information contact your local branch of Arrabawn Co-op or ring 087 6697010.



Teagasc | Animal Health Ireland
CELLCHECK ON-FARM EVENTS

Rule changes to antibiotic use on dairy farms is coming
ARE YOU READY?

PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATIONS
- HOW BEST TO DRY OFF COWS?

IRISH RESEARCH ON SELECTIVE DRY COW STRATEGIES

SELECTIVE DRY COW STRATEGY - THIS FARM'S EXPERIENCE

ANTIBIOTICS - WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

If you want to learn more about any of these topics, come along to one of the Animal Health Ireland/Teagasc CellCheck Open Days

For information: www.animalhealthireland.ie

071 96 71928

ANIMAL HEALTH
Apply for a FREE 'DRY COW CONSULT'

NATIONAL MASTITIS CONTROL PROGRAMME
Animal Health Ireland, 41-5 The Archways, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim, N45 WN27

Please be aware of the change of time for the CellCheck Event supported by Arrabawn.

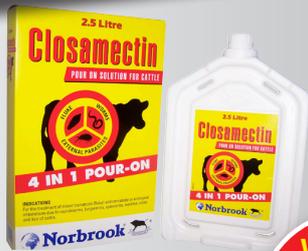
When: Friday 1st November 2019

Location: Kevin Muldoon and Mella Briscoe, Eyrecourt, Ballycrissane, Portumna, H53 CP21

Time: 11am

Topics Covered: 1) Drying off Cows 2) Future of Antibiotics 3) Selective Dry Cow Strategies 4) Dealing with Mastitis and High SCC.

Attending this event will help you to prepare for the future legislation changes and ensure your herd will continue to progress efficiently. Keeping updated with the newest information is key to adapt to all the changes and challenges.



CLOSAMECTIN POUR ON 2.5LT

For the treatment of mixed trematode (flake) and nematode or arthropod infestations due to roundworms, lungworms, eye worms, warbles, mites and lice of cattle

WAS €288
NOW
€275



RUMENIL

Rumenil fluke drench is an orally administered drench for the treatment and control of adult liver fluke and tapeworms in cattle.

WAS €64
NOW
€59



ENDOSPEC 6LT

Endospec 10% SC with the addition of selenium and cobalt is a broad spectrum multi-purpose anthelmintic for the mature and developing immature forms of gastrointestinal roundworms, lungworms, tapeworms and adult liver fluke. The product is also ovicidal against fluke eggs. In sheep, it is active against benzimidazole



ALBEX 6LT

Controls mature and developing immature forms of gastro-intestinal roundworms, lungworms, tapeworms and sheep and cattle. The product is also ovicidal against fluke and roundworm eggs.

WAS €90
NOW
€85



DECTOSPOT 1.25LT

For the control of both sucking and biting lice on all ages of cattle, including lactating dairy cows. Also as an aid in the control of nuisance flies. On sheep: For the control of ticks, lice, keds and established blowfly strike on sheep.

WAS €36
NOW
€33
DECTOSPOT
500ML
WAS €86
NOW
€79
LIMITED STOCK



BIMECTIN PLUS 500ML

Bimectin Plus Injection is a broad spectrum anthelmintic for cattle. It is used for the treatment and control of roundworms, lungworms, adult liver fluke, mites and lice in beef and non lactating dairy



BETA RAT BAIT BOX

WAS €12.50
NOW
€7.99



BORA RAT BAIT BOX

WAS €16.99
NOW
€11.99



STORM 3KG

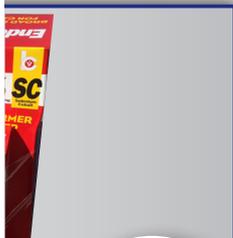


**FREE
BETA
BAIT BOX**



GALVANISED DRINKING BOWL

2019 SPECIAL OFFERS



WAS €99
NOW €80

elenium...
purpose...
pping...
ndworms,
fluke sheep.
e and roundworm eggs.
ole-susceptible



WAS €58
NOW €52

**ZEROFEN 10%
2.5LT**

Oral suspension which controls mature and developing immature forms of major species of gastrointestinal roundworms and lungworms in cattle and sheep.



WAS €135
NOW €125

**ENDOFLUKE
5LT+1LT PACK**

For the treatment of adult, immature and early immature stages of liver fluke susceptible to triclabendazole in catt



WAS €100
NOW €89

um anti parasitic
d control of gastro-
like, eyeworms, warbles
o dairy cattle.



WAS €129
NOW €99

**PHILIPS 60ML
AUTO DRENCHER**



ONLY €69

**5LT DRINKING BOWL
COMPLETE WITH GALVANISED
PROTECTION BRACKET**



WAS €35
NOW €29

OWL



28"
WAS €26.50
NOW €20



32"
WAS €16.99
NOW €11.99

**GALVANISED CURVED
YARD SCRAPER**



ONLY €49

**NORAMAX SAFETY
WELLINGTON**

- Antibacterial inner liner
- Easy cleaning upper
- Anatomical fit
- Comfort guaranteed anti-fatigue heel
- 55 steel midsole protection
- Kick off spur
- Cushion comfort footbed foam
- Slip resistance 24°C
- Self-cleaning outsole
- Ortholite® technology

bawn.ie

OFFERS END
NOVEMBER 30TH 2019

Milk Quality Advisor:

Reminder - Dairy Health Certificate 2020

Please send completed Certificate by the 30th of November 2019 to
Arrabawn Co-op, Stafford street, Nenagh, Co Tipperary

If you have misplaced your blank Health Cert which was sent to you earlier this year by post please contact your milk advisor.

Note: Arrabawn will not be in a position to collect milk from your holding from the 1st of January 2020 unless it has received the fully completed certificate.

Changes to the Derogation (Adjustment) of the SCC:

Cessation of the derogation (Adjustment) for seasonality factor application in the calculation of the somatic cell count in cows' milk.

- The terms of the derogation granted in 1996 were: during the period from November of one year to February of the following year, Ireland is authorized to use for calculating the somatic cell count in raw cows' milk a calculation method that involves weighting each month's results by a coefficient.
- This derogation (Adjustment) **will be removed** by Department of Agriculture with effect from **November 2018**. Calculations for SCC will continue on a three-month rolling geometric mean throughout the full year, **without the coefficient previously applied in the low production period.**

What is lactose in milk?

Lactose is a natural sugar that is secreted in the udder of the cow. The presence of lactose in the milk gives milk its sweet taste. When lactose levels fall below a certain threshold (~4.25%) the milk is difficult to process. This is why we impose penalties when lactose levels fall below their minimum threshold

Why does lactose fall in Autumn?

Due to changes in the physiology and metabolism of the mammary gland in late lactation the lactose content in milk declines, coinciding with the decline in milk production. In an autumn calving herd where cows are calving over a 6-month period there are no major declines in milk constituents as it is balanced by cows at both ends of lactation. However, the problem is much more pronounced in a spring calving herd where all of the cows have calved in a 12-week period and they enter into late lactation at the same time.

Management recommendations to help maintain milk lactose levels:

- Monitor yield of cows, dry off any cows producing less than 8 litres/cows/day.
- If average herd yield is less than 10 litres/cow/day then dry off the whole herd.
- Cows with high SCCs produce low lactose milk, at any stage of lactation. Dry off these cows.

Nutritional recommendations to address falling milk lactose levels:

Nutrition also has a role to play. In late lactation there will also be a more marked impact on lactose levels if cows are 'underfed' in terms of dry matter intake and energy intake not being high enough to maintain yield. This year cows still milking 15 litres have low lactose levels, indicating a severe shortage on energy intake.

- Energy and protein intake in late lactation influence milk yield and milk constituents so it is essential that the cow's diet is sufficient to produce the volume of milk without using her own body reserves.
- As the grazing rotation is being lengthened to close off paddocks it is important to supplement cows with a high energy dairy nut, protein 16-18%. This year levels will vary 2-6 kgs depending on milk yield, grass supply and grass quality.

Penalties for low Lactose

Over the next few weeks please monitor your lactose results. Lactose levels are tested after every collection and text out to the farmer. The letter L in the text message stands for Lactose. The following penalties apply for low lactose levels.

Lactose greater than 4.25 = No penalty

Lactose less than 4.25 = 2.5 cent per litre penalty

Lactose less than 4.00 = 5 cent per litre penalty.



Garda Message

Vehicle Security Buying a Used Car

So, you have decided to buy – did you ask yourself or the vendor the right questions?

- Am I buying from a recognised / established dealership, or if buying privately, do I know the party selling the vehicle and can I verify his/her bona fides?
- Can I establish the previous mechanical service history of the vehicle?
- Are the service records available?
- Has the car ever been crashed?
- Were any repairs carried out to the vehicle and do I know what caused them and who repaired them?
- Are there any obvious tell-tale signs of renovation and/or repair, and if so, why? (e.g. replaced carpets, pedal pads, re-sprayed bodywork, new engine parts etc.)
- Did you or your engineer carry out a diagnostic test drive?
- Did I consult with the previous owner(s) as to the reasons for the sale of the vehicle?
- Are the legal documents for the vehicle in order and do the details, such as engine, chassis, V.I.N. numbers etc. correspond with those on the vehicle? Are they any signs of interference with them?
- Are the legal documents readily available and if not why?
- Am I satisfied that there are no outstanding finance claims owing against the vehicle to credit agencies?
- Has the car been imported and, if so, have all taxes and duties (e.g. VAT, VRT) been paid?
- Has the vehicle been taxed to date, and if not why?
- Have I viewed the vehicle in good lighting conditions at the vendor's premises with an independent engineer?
- Am I satisfied that the asking price of the vehicle is a reflection of its true value? If not why?
- How was the vehicle advertised? Are contact details verifiable/traceable where a private sale is offered?

A more comprehensive guide to buying a used vehicle is available from the National Consumer Agency - a copy of which can be downloaded from their website

Stolen Herd Monitoring Unit

A HerdInsights Gateway unit which collects data from collars worn by cows to monitor health and heat detection has been stolen from an out farm at Horseleap, Moate, Co Westmeath. This unit which is linked to a cloud-based system will only

work with the collars linked to it hence it is useless to any other farmer. The unit was powered by a solar panel and a tractor battery which were also stolen.



Gardaí in Athlone are investigating this theft and they remind farmers to keep items like these units and battery electric fences out of sights of thieves. Any information to aid the recovery of this equipment to the Gardaí in Athlone Ph. 09064 98550 or to the farmer in question Aidan Casey Ph. 087 8221777.

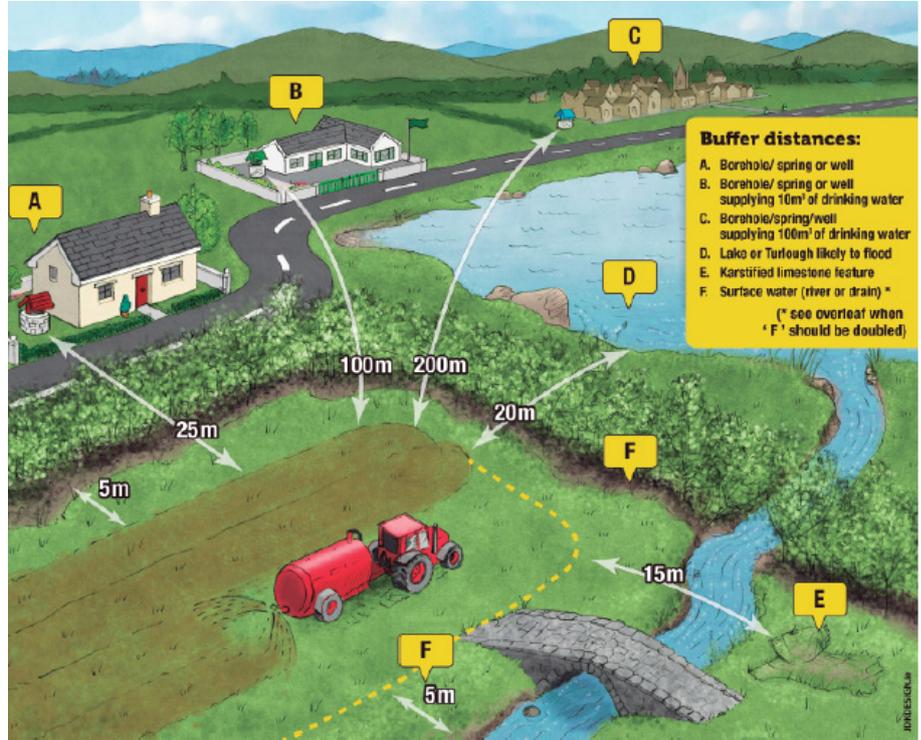
Agricultural Sustainability Support & Advisory Programme (ASSAP)

Good Agricultural Practice for the Protection of Waters Buffer distances for the land spreading of organic fertiliser/soiled water. And note that some of these buffers double 2-week pre and post the closed periods (i.e. Slurry spreading buffer zone extends from 5m to 10m).

We are working with farmers in a free and confidential advisory service to help improve water quality. It is in all our interests to work together to improve Ireland's overall water quality and the wellbeing of society. Additionally, it will also help to strengthen farming by reinforcing our green image as food producers and underpin the future development of sustainable Irish agriculture. The farmer and advisor will agree on where to focus improvements or actions on the farm:

- Improved nutrient management with more targeted use of slurry and fertiliser
- New approaches to land management to reduce nutrient losses in critical source areas
- Better farmyard management and practices

The practical advice will be designed to 'break the pathway' and prevent nutrients from entering water. Examples of such measures include riparian margins along streams, fencing to stop cattle access to streams, more suitable



siting of troughs and feeders, improved use of fertilisers and slurries, better yard management etc. For more details contact Paddy Purcell on 087 0963869.

Assessing body condition score

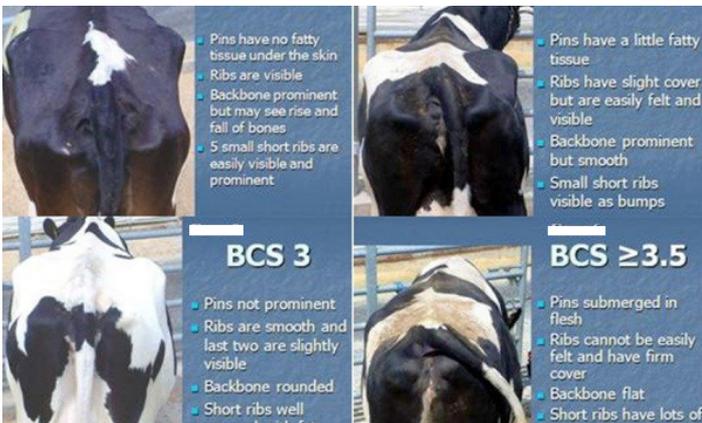
Research demonstrates that a cow's body condition is heavily correlated with her overall production and reproduction performance. In scoring a cow, the tail head and loin are the major areas to evaluate. Target scores help determine what condition to aim for during the different stages of lactation. Late lactation is the optimum time to manipulate body condition. Cows should be in a positive energy balance and confirmed

pregnant by this time, and changes in body condition can be made very efficiently. Ideally cows will be dried off in target body condition and this condition maintained over the dry period. Where cows are currently below target, feeding prior to dry off is the most economical.

The optimum BCS to calve cows is 3.25 (range 3.0 - 3.5), ensuring no more than 0.5 of a BCS is lost until the start of breeding (Target BCS of 3.0 at breeding). Cows calving in a body condition below 3 will have a lower milk yield and take longer to get back in calf.

In the below table, the negative effect of body condition loss post calving to conception is highlighted.

Assess body condition scores within the herd now, to avoid the expensive exercise of building body condition over the dry period.



Body Condition at Calving	Body Condition loss from calving : conception rate (Moorepark 2001)		
	0.25	0.25 - 0.50	>0.50
>3	72%	64%	53%
2.75 - 3.0	64%	55%	44%
< 2.75	57%	49%	37%